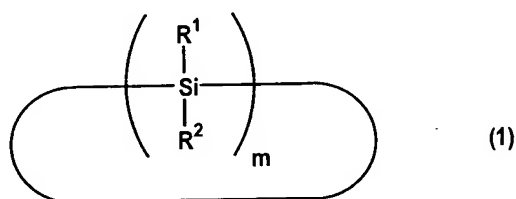


ABSTRACT

A top surface layer of an electrophotographic photosensitive element (e.g., a charge-transporting
5 layer) is rendered to contain a cyclic polysilane represented by the following formula (1).



In the formula, R^1 and R^2 are the same or different from each other and each represents a group such as an alkyl group, an aryl group, and "m" denotes an integer of not
10 less than 4.

The cyclic polysilane may be a copolysilane. The content of the cyclic polysilane may be about 0.01 to 10% by weight relative to the whole components of the top surface layer.